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1st Founding Anniversary of the RVSN Provisional Revolutionary Government

THOSE WHO WILL HAVE THE LAST WORD

A recent event of paramount importance a year ago marked the heroic struggle of the South Vietnamese people: the founding of the Republic of South Viet Nam and the formation of its Provisional Revolutionary Government.

Where did this government come from and how was it formed?

It is necessary to trace back to the year 1954 when the South Vietnamese people, in face of American designs and Saigon puppets' manoeuvres, rose up immediately to demand implementation of the Geneva Agreements, namely respect of the fundamental national rights of the Vietnamese. Tempered by a protracted resistance against French colonialism, the South Vietnamese people soon put up a resistance against US intervention and the US-installed fascist regime in Saigon. During these fifteen years, all social classes, political organizations, religious sects and ethnic groups, threatened in their daily life by a conjunctive regime, have risen one after another for their vital rights and for national independence, peace and national unity.

Washington's neo-colonialism and the Saigon fascist regime gradually touched off a most powerful popular opposition resulting in the establishment in December 1960 of the NFL in face of US armed intervention the South Vietnamese have since 1960 conducted an all-sided political and armed struggle, under extremely arduous circumstances. This victorious fight has been waged in the countryside as well as in cities, in the plains as well as in the mountainous regions. In the urban centres the middle strata, the intelligentsia in particular, which included many prominent members of the former resistance, set up in 1968 their genuine organization to fight US aggression: the Alliance of National, Democratic and Peace Forces. In 1969 the NFL and the ANDPF convened a national congress, which decided the formation of the Provisional Revolutionary Government.

Thus, it is on the basis of a large mustering of popular forces and as a result of a long and successful struggle that the PRG came into being. And all the forces which contributed to the success of that arduous struggle against a powerful and ferocious enemy — US imperialism — have

for a year now given proof of their vitality and determination. Nixon's new intensification has come to grief; GIs and puppet troops have been badly mauled by the people's armed forces. Cities, American bases always remain under the threat of PLAF large-scale attacks.

US saturation bombings and massive spraying of toxic chemicals have not prevented the PRG from firmly organizing its administration at all levels and its production. Crop lands have expanded little by little while the methods of intensive cultivation have been applied. Dispensaries and schools have mushroomed in all villages. In January 1970, an exhibition was held by the Ministry of Culture with 2,500 paintings and sculptures. Many films have been produced by Liberation studios.

The representativeness of the PRG was rapidly recognized in the international arena. It is rather unusual that a revolutionary government in the thick of its fight, only a few weeks after its founding, must recognition of about twenty countries. At present twenty-five countries entertain diplomatic relations with the PRG and twenty-two others contacts at various levels with it, too national and international organizations have welcomed the setting up of the PRG and pledged support to it.

As a national and popular government, the PRG is heir to a long national tradition of struggle for independence. It continues a century of struggle of the Vietnamese people against French colonialism. At the time when the national-liberation movement spread over Asia, Africa and Latin America, the PRG takes a place in the great community of governments and organizations which resolutely fight imperialism. The whole progressive mankind joins its support and aid.

Shoulder to shoulder with the fraternal peoples of Cambodia and Laos engaged in the same effort for independence, peace and against the common enemy, the PRG represents the South Vietnamese people to wage the present struggle and to build in common a future of peace and prosperity.

In vain R. Nixon wriggles, in vain the Pentagon hurls its crack troops into the battle. It is the South Vietnamese, the PRG who will carry the day. It is the Indochinese people who will win.

SAMDECH NORODOM SIHANOUK, HEAD OF STATE OF CAMBODIA, CONTINUES HIS VISIT IN THE DRVN



Samdech Norodom Sihanouk receives the South Viet Nam Heroes and Valiant Fighters' Delegation

THE third day (May 27) of the DRVN visit of Samdech Norodom Sihanouk, Head of State of Cambodia, President of the National United Front of Kampuchea (FUNK), was marked by a Buddhist ceremony at Quan Su Pagoda in Hanoi. Samdech Norodom Sihanouk, Princess Monique Sihanouk, Cambodian Premier Penn Nouth and his wife, and other distinguished Khmer guests, accompanied by Premier Pham Van Dong and other Vietnamese personalities, were present. The pagoda was lavishly decorated with Vietnamese and Cambodian flags and Buddhist banners. On a stand in front of the altar were seven superior bonzes in their yellow cassocks and one hundred other bonzes while over five hundred Buddhist believers crowded the yard of the pagoda.

Samdech Norodom Sihanouk and the other Cambodian guests meditated for a long time before the altar while the Buddhist bonzes and followers were praying for the souls of the Buddhists and all the Cambodians, Vietnamese and Lao killed in the struggle against US aggression for independence and peace. Prayers were also said for the happiness of Her Majesty the Queen Kossamak Nearhreach, Samdech Norodom Sihanouk and the other Cambodian distinguished guests.

Deeply moved, Samdech Norodom Sihanouk thanked the Buddhist bonzes and followers for the new token of sympathy of the Vietnamese people toward the Cambodian people now engaged in a fight against the US aggressors and their valets.

On the same day, May 27, a delegation of PLAF heroes and valiant fighters now visiting the North came to pay their respects to Samdech Norodom Sihanouk and other Cambodian guests.

Prof. Nguyen Van Hieu, RVSN Ambassador to Cambodia and delegation leader, expressed their joy to meet on Viet Nam soil the messengers of heroic Cambodia, the close comrades-in-arms of the Vietnamese people. He said how clated the South Vietnamese fighters were on the hearing of the successes of the Cambodian people who, responding to the call of their Head of State, and cloning their ranks within the FUNK, have inflicted humiliating setbacks on the US aggressors, Saigon puppet troops and Lon Nol-Sirik Matak clique.

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SOUTH VIET NAM

PLAF HIT HARD AT ENEMY DEFENCE SYSTEM AND "PACIFICATION" PROGRAM

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How US neo-colonial policy is applied in South Viet Nam? Its economic, political and cultural aspects are studied in a series of articles to be published starting from this issue.

SHORTLY after the 1954 armistice, the US broke into the "French enclave" by one, and tackled down to tightening its control over the South.

With the transfer to the Diem administration of the Stock Exchange, the Saigon harbor, the Bank of Issue of the Indochinese Associated States (formerly the Bank of Indochina), foreign trade monopoly, direct utilization of US aid, and the binding of South Viet Nam to the dollar-area, the Americans secured control of the main economic apparatuses in South Viet Nam.

U.S. Neo-Colonialism in South Viet Nam: THE ECONOMIC WEAPON

by NGUYEN XUAN LAI

"TRUE BOSSES" OF SOUTH VIET NAM

US "advisors" swarmed into Saigon with the mission of "building the framework of the new regime."

Grouped in three main organs, they not only suggested and inspired but chiefly managed, operated and decided, while the "prime minister," a CIA placeman, only executed. The US Operations Mission (USOM), name of the International Co-operation Agency (ICA) in South Viet Nam, and later on, under the Kennedy Administration, the Agency for International Development (AID) looked after all economic, financial, cultural and social problems. Under Leland Barrows, USOM played the role of a Ministry of National Economy, Finance and Cultural and Social Affairs. Above all these super-ministries which supervised all the activities of their South Vietnamese counterparts, was the US Embassy. It was and still is this organ which, with all its political, military, economic, financial, cultural and social departments, practically run the show in the country. USOM managed and supervised almost all US aid to South Viet Nam, except "direct" aid in armament and military equipment distributed by MAAG. With 400 American agents (highest 250 in total) and 500 Vietnamese agents in 1954 (1,130 Americans in 1955) and a variable number of Americans, Formosan, Filipino or Japanese experts, central for concrete short-term jobs, it spread its tentacles to all the branches of activities in the country, especially:

- Commerce
- Agriculture and exploitation of natural resources
- Industry and mines
- Transport and communication
- Employment
- Health
- National education
- Community development
- Public administration
- Rural construction
- General and miscellaneous services.

Its agents and experts examined thoroughly the projects, programs and plans blue-printed or inspired by American "advisors"—of course the same men—to the Ministries concerned of the Saigon government. The approval by USOM was a *sine qua non* condition of the granting of aid: US advisors reached down to districts to supervise the utilization of funds, and US aid was handed directly to the provincial authorities without passing through the Saigon, chiefly with regard to "rural construction" works. Reuter confirmed on May 17, 1953 that the American projects disapproved by the USOM were without appeal and the US advisors revised on the spot the utilization of aid. And Phan Quang Dan, a notorious pro-American, termed USOM as an "occult US government beside the South Viet Nam government" (*Thoi Loan*, Aug. 18, 1957).

U.S. AID: A POWERFUL, EFFICIENT AND FORMIDABLE WEAPON

TO put a legal face on its domination, the US signed on Feb. 21 and Apr. 21, 1955 with Ngo Dinh Diem sham bilateral agreements on "economic co-operation." These agreements which continued that signed on Sept. 7, 1951 and the exchanges of notes on Dec. 18, 1951 and Jan. 3, 1952 and 1953 between the US government and Ngo Dinh Diem within the framework of the "1951 Law on Mutual Security," better known as the law on Mutual Defense Assistance Program (MDAP) (1), defined the procedures of US aid to Ngo Dinh Diem and fixed that conditions and amount of an "additional financial aid."

Apart from direct military aid in armament and military equipment, which reached 1,301,181 million dollars from 1955 to 1964, the US called "economic" aid took various forms, chiefly that of "commercial

aid." It was first an aid in goods consisting of the overwhelming part of staple consumer goods amounting from 1955 to 1967 (June 30) to 2,192.5 million dollars. Another aid program to the value of 135.5 million dollars for the same period and coming from the implementation of Public Law (PL) 480, Title 1, consisted in disposing on the South Viet Nam market of US farm surplus such as cotton, tobacco, powdered milk, flour. The US budget financed all these exports, including the shipping supplied by leading American companies. Ninety per cent of the proceeds from the sale (in piastron) of these goods should be sent to the "counterpart fund" to feed the Saigon budget; the remaining 10 per cent was put at the disposal of USOM. In total, during thirteen years (from 1955 to 1967) a huge quantity

of American goods and agricultural surplus—belonging almost to the political, social and economic consequences—to the value of 2,328 million dollars flooded South Viet Nam essentially for the upkeep of South Vietnamese armed forces. Each year this aid is fixed by the US government but it is only released month by month for the utilization of money allotted to the "counterpart fund" after the expenditure had got USOM approval.

One must not forget another aid, not less important.

It is the distribution of provisions

such as wheat, corn, powdered milk, flour, vegetable oil, coming also from US agricultural surplus. These "donations" in kind of 232.6 million dollars from 1955 to 1967, "the great unseen weapon of Kennedy's third world policy"—as A.M. Schlesinger Jr. has put it—made it possible for the Americans to "kill two birds with one stone": on the one hand, to "pacify the minds and souls of South Viet Nam peasants" victims of their aggression and supply to the Saigon government the funds necessary to feed its war budget, for effectively part of these "gifts" was doled out free of charges but put up for sale; on the other, always according to Schlesinger, "the 'Food for Peace' program greatly eased the problems created by American agricultural surpluses, increased farm income and purchasing power and even, under the stipulation that the food be transported in American ships, helped subsidize the maritime industry" (2).

A fourth aid program named "economic and technical assistance" the most important owing to its strategic significance of 1,155.4 million dollars for the same period (1955-1967), was used to finance USOM plans and programs of definitely political and military character, namely: the transfer of Northern "refugees," creation of agricultural colonies, "re-education centres" and "prosperity centres," carrying out of "agrarian reform," building of "strategic hamlets," building of a network of strategic roads, airstrips and naval bases, extension of a telecommunication network, organization

of militia and rural administration, survey of natural and human resources in the country for later exploitation and immediate use (feeding the war with war), opening of a national school of administration; execution of "revolutionary development" and "rural construction" programs.

Finally the "loans" granted to the Diem administration: 50 million dollars from the Export-Import Bank to finance the initial contribution of South Viet Nam to the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and the International Development and Rehabilitation Bank and the importation of capital goods and chiefly of services for the armed forces; 3.3 million dollars, also from the Export-Import Bank, for the "Asian Economic Development Fund" earmarked for the extension of the military telecommunication network; 39.8 million dollars from the "Development Loan Fund" (DLF) reserved for the railway network, Saigon and the building and equipment of a power station at Thu Duc (suburb of Saigon); 5.7 million dollars, paid in piastron, to private industries inducted from the fund derived from the sale of American surplus agricultural products. These "loans" were always managed by USOM and it has been suspended since 1963.

Thus from January 1955 to June 30, 1967, the US granted to the Saigon government an aid aggregating at least six billion dollars (figure given by the correspondent in Levee Conlic on March 30, 1966, which is still below reality).

Is it to say that this profited South Viet Nam economy? Michael Klare said in *The Nation*, No. 9, in March 1970: "Throughout the world, the US has so manipulated the social and economic relationships of native population as to create subgroups which place loyalty to Washington over that to their fellow-countrymen. US foreign aid programs, import subsidies and military grants are all designed to create in each country a privileged stratum dependent upon continued American beneficence for its prosperity. When such a group acquires control of the national government, the US ultimately exercises the power. Since the ruling group remains dependent on US aid even when in control of the governmental apparatus (in order to finance development projects and the military payroll), Washington can compel a client regime to provide troops for US-led counter-insurgency campaigns. This process of subversion is easily discerned in South Viet Nam but the same mechanism prevails elsewhere in Asia, particularly in Thailand, South Viet Nam and Laos."

Viet Nam National Bank) will be made only with the agreement of the government of the US. Funds so released which may later be determined by the government of the US to have been used contrary to the specific terms of its agreement, will, upon written request, be redeposited in the special account "Counterpart Fund" account opened at the South

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(1) According to this law, all country which does not implement the stipulations of bilateral treaties cannot receive any aid under whatever form, and should this aid not result in the strengthening of US security, it would not be granted. And the government of the US itself is obliged to stipulate that the government of the US shall contribute to the best of its abilities in man-power resources and materials to maintain its forces for its own defense and that of the free world.

(2) A.M. Schlesinger Jr., *A Thousand Days* — John F. Kennedy in the White House, *A Mayflower Dell Paperback*, London 1967, p. 481.

At the Moc Chau State Farm

Tiger Grass Is Replaced by Hop

It was in January 1960. Our convoy of political deportees, coming from Hanoi central jail to Son La penitentiary was passing here. An immense carpet of tiger grass covered the whole plateau. Twenty-two years later here I am again in Moc Chau. Beautiful plantations lie on the hills and herds of Turkastani sheep quietly graze where tigers were prowling. Roofs of red tiles dot the landscape. One meets girls with rosy cheeks like Moc's peaches.

With these few lines written down in the visitors' book of the Moc Chau state farm, historian Tran Huy Lien brings out all the changes which have taken place on this plateau nearly 20 years ago. In the winter of 1940, when the Lao border, I came there in 1960; despite four years of US bombing Moc Chau has kept on thriving.

Another surprise is in store. In the distance one can see a completed structure of concrete pillars with an intricate network of bamboo poles and wire on which climb a Czechoslovak variety of hop. On this plateau 800 metres high the average temperature is 15 degrees with a maximum of 32 degrees and a minimum of 3 degrees or sometimes -3 degrees, which enables one to acclimatize plants of the temperate zone.

But all these figures are only deceiving. Here the tropical climate holds away with all its rigors: diurnal rains from May to September which sweep away everything, flood the valleys, erode the soil, then protracted droughts from October to April, and in winter often very cold nights which play havoc upon crops and cattle. Most terrible of all is erosion. If the soil is a little denuded, all the

conditions prevailing in the country. North Viet Nam has indeed very little arable land. The delta is wholly cultivated, and the highlands cover great areas but these are either completely bare and lateritic hills or mountains with steep slopes and thick vegetation.

Nobody among the management or the personnel was familiar with the techniques to put into application. To grow rice in flooded fields or dry food crops, sweet potato, maize, to raise a draught buffalo or a few pigs, were an easy matter. But to reclaim the jungle, combat erosion, grow pastures to breed Dutch milch-cows or Turkastani sheep, acclimatize tea from temperate zones, vine and other fruit-trees were so many techniques unknown to them.

"At the start," farm-manager Tai Anh told me,

tiger grass. Another grass imported from Greece, the *medicago sativa*, is a leguminous plant with long roots which is also very strong.

"The pastures thus laid out have been divided into several plots where the cattle graze for a length of time necessary to eliminate intestinal parasites and let the grass sprout on the unused plots. Instead of putting up barbed wire entanglements to separate these plots we have grown trees to provide shade to the beasts and check erosion.

"For this is our main concern. Pastures, re-afforestation, crops, all this aims at controlling erosion. The most important work is the building of circular terraces on the hill slopes with dykes to prevent streaming. On these embankments, gutters are fixed, fit with straw plugs. Thus water can flow while arable land is retained."

"A state enterprise," I told the manager, "you have certainly at your disposal equipment superior than the co-operatives."

"That's true, but they are much inferior as compared with other countries because Viet Nam is still too little industrialized. We have got just a few scores of tractors, some groups of Diesel motors. We also have several technicians but they are too young. We all are greenhorns here. Moreover, in agriculture there is not only technique."

"What is more?" "Plants and beasts are living creatures which need care. One must tend them with affection, like children, the way some of our milkmaids cover the new-born calves with their own padded jackets. What has made our success is not only the application of appropriate techniques but also the common desire to fulfil the task assigned to us by the state."

I thought of the former plantations of tea, coffee and rubber run by European colonialists. Technically, they unquestionably were a success. But at what cost! The workers were true slaves subject to corporal punishments and various fines. In the end they died of malaria, dysentery and avitaminosis. In the evening the old workers who had survived all these trials still relate with

a shiver in the back all these stories of the past.

At Moc Chau, life was indeed hard at the beginning when the tiger grass cut the pioneers' hands and when they had to live in leaf-covered huts. But since the start it was a socialist enterprise run by comrades, each of them with the sense of being a master of the common work and enjoying the maximum of self-interest available. As soon as it has got some profit, everybody had share in it. Today it is a big community in which the maximum of self-interest, their crèches, pre-school classes and schools. Their parents follow evening courses.

In the evening, in the clubs lit by electric lamps people listen to music or sing, many of their favourite songs being written by a young composer who works at Moc Chau, Duc Thinh. In the past, the delta peasants were afraid of breaking virgin land for they easily died of cold, hunger and malaria. Today, at Moc Chau, many of the workers feel attached to their "new village," who formerly yearned for their native ones.

WITH manager Tai Anh we discussed rentability and profits.

"There are also indispensable gains," he said, "which are not recorded in our books. Take the ethnic groups who live here before the establishment of our farm. Within ten years they have made progress unknown after several centuries. We have helped them set up co-operatives, apply new farming techniques conformable to their settlement, and wipe out illiteracy. New plant species have been distributed to the local population to diversify their agriculture. Moreover, there has been mutual aid, for these people provide us with seasonal labour, which has learnt a lot in getting into touch with us."

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* An ethnic group which lives in the high mountains.

Ten-trees on Moc Chau hills (See the steps built to prevent erosion)

Photo: NGO VAN KHUET

The road which leads there winds up amidst an abundant tropical vegetation and denuded hills, which are lateritic soil. An experienced traveller can realize all the difficulties the pioneers had to grapple with to turn the landscape one can now see at the guest house.

On a background of brown or red hills and green pastures move white and black spots of milch-cows, while on vast meadows a host of sheep graze, and further down sheep browse in the bushes. The first surveys reveal orchards of pear-trees, apple-trees, other trees of the temperate zone and even vine-stocks. A good surprise, the farm offers to the visitor its home-made wine, in an out-of-the-way place, in a country where vine had never been grown!

arable land is carried away in one rainy season. The name "Moc Chau plateau" itself is like a prop on a flat ground but gradients from 5 to 30 degrees.

In 1958, a detachment of the People's Army was sent to Moc Chau to establish a state farm, that is a "socialist state enterprise which has to accumulate funds for enlarged reproduction and become a technical centre setting an example to agricultural co-operatives." (Instruction of the Ministry of State Farms).

A centre for technical experiment and at the same time paying concerns, such is a difficult job, especially in unfavourable climatic and technical conditions and terrain. But these are the

SAMDECH Norodom Sihanouk, Head of State of Cambodia, went on May 24 and June 2 respectively his 5th and 6th messages to the nation.

The messages highlight the Lon Nol-Sirik Matak clique's acts of high treason in the month of May 1970.

First, their behaviour vis-à-vis the USA: "The number of American personnel keeps increasing and they have arrogated to themselves the right to transport by air from Saigon to Phnom Penh (Pochentong Airport) all sorts of materials for subversion and war by US imperialism and neo-colonialism."

"Military, the US ground forces are occupying and putting to fire and sword a great part of our country, the US naval forces are using our rivers and territorial waters in a sovereign manner. As to the US Air Force, the Lon Nol-Sirik Matak gang takes great pleasure in inviting it to bomb savagely and intensively many of our provinces, districts, villages and cities, destroying everything that belongs to our innocent and peaceable people, including many lives, and plunging our people into misery and inhuman suffering."

"But this does not satisfy the sadism of the Phnom Penh reactionary traitors. The press of the free world revealed in effect that when they were informed of the intention of their American masters to withdraw the US troops to South Viet Nam by June 30, the Lon Nol 'government' and military chiefs implored the 'great boss' not to do so, because they were afraid of being wiped out by the enemy."

"According to *Rente* (table of May 29) Mr Vuorens told a French press luncheon here this week that Cambodia would ask the United States to allow its troops to stay on if the Cambodian armed forces had not regained control of the country."

The Lon Nol - Sirik Matak clique behaves not less despicably vis-à-vis the Bangkok regime. Samdech Norodom Sihanouk says:

"Now the Thais can send CIA agents to Phnom Penh as personnel of their embassy in order to co-operate with the Americans in the SEATO aggressive activities against our people."

"The Thais will have the right to enter Cambodia freely and to exploit the resources of our country, particularly the interesting tourist resources (as well as the airlines), for example, Phnom Penh, Siemreap (Angkor), Battambang, Preah Vihear." (It is to be recalled that the International Court at the Hague has recognized the Preah Vihear as part of Cambodia).

"At present, Lon Nol has reached the peak of betrayal. He has no shame in asking the Bangkok Vice-Premier, Phrasas Charnathien, who came to Phnom Penh for an inspection tour, to send Thai ground, naval and air forces for occupation and invasion of Cambodia."

"UPI on May 29 released this statement of Phrasas: 'We agreed to assist Cambodia in aerial reconnaissance over land and sea borders... Cambodia has requested us to send a division of troops there (about 15,000 men).'"

"Another UPI dispatch specified: 'Thailand is carefully considering Cambodia's request for one division of Thai troops to protect Phnom Penh. Thailand would send 20 patrol boats to Cambodia for use against communist forces on the Mekong River, (that is against our people's forces).'"

What is most revolting is the behaviour of the Lon Nol-Sirik

clique of Cambodia by the two countries."

Cambodia having been sold out to the Americans, Thais, Saigoise and others, what remains of Cambodia's sovereignty? In this connection, Samdech N. Sihanouk quotes an AFP dispatch by Derek Wilson as saying on May 13 that "thrice-star General Do Cao Tri... said, 'We have been ordered not to get closer than five kilometres to Phnom Penh to respect Cambodian sovereignty.'"

"Today Lon Nol has been compelled to content himself with 'reigning' inside Phnom Penh. Reporter Don Shannon, in his report datelined May

respect the Khmer coastal islands.

"As a matter of fact, our Buddhist clergy and our nation as a whole know perfectly well that Sihanouk succeeded a long time ago in obtaining not only a declaration of respect but also of solemn recognition of our present borders including the coastal islands in question by the real Viet Nam, the only true Viet Nam, that of the Vietnamese people."

"The Saigon puppet regime is in no way entitled to represent the Vietnamese people. It only represents itself and is a well-known puppet of US imperialism."

Samdech N. Sihanouk reveals that Lon Nol and Sirik Matak are contemplating using white mercenaries as did Isombe. He quotes an AFP dispatch from Phnom Penh dated May 14 that "the Cambodian government continued today that it had already been approached by white mercenaries... So far the Cambodian government has not made an official statement, but the sources said it was certainly considering the possibility."

Samdech N. Sihanouk further mentions another humiliation suffered by the Phnom Penh usurpers: they were not even admitted as a full member of the so-called Asian Conference on Cambodia recently convened in Jakarta.

WHAT is the origin of the present tragedy of the Cambodian nation? Samdech Norodom Sihanouk points out:

"At the bottom of this tragedy is not 'Viet Cong' or 'Viet Minh' invasion, but simply the unbridled ambition of the perpetrators of the coup d'état, who served their personal interests on the one hand and the supreme interests of their money-lenders, the American imperialists, and their Saigon and Bangkok accomplices on the other."

"Today the Americans have set up their colony in a considerable part of the regions of Svay Rieng, Memot, Snuol, Mondulakiri, Rattanakiri, etc."

"The Saigonists have a settlement in Svay Rieng, part of Kompong Cham, part of Prey Veng, part of Kandal, part of the Mekong, and all the coast from Ha Tien (South Viet Nam) to Sihanoukville, including all our coastal islands. In addition, they have declared that they reserve the right to occupy in future the regions of Takeo, Kampot, Kompong Son, etc."

"The Siamese (Thais) have hastened to occupy Preah Vihear. According to the press of the 'free' world, they will be 'invited' by the Lon Nol 'government' to send their armed forces to colonize the areas of Battambang, Odar Meanchey, Preah Vihear, etc."

"The Khmer will never let pass unpunished this obvious and grave betrayal of the country by the Lon Nol-Sirik Matak group."

Samdech N. Sihanouk then exalts the patriotism displayed by various strata of the Cambodian people: "Our People's Army of National

20, had this to say: 'Premier Lon Nol is called 'Mayor of Phnom Penh' by the diplomatic corps... Lon Nol now has publicly confessed that he has no control over his country outside the capital,' one of the ambassadors remaining here commented, shaking his head. 'That is what the Lon No propaganda calls the support from the seven million Khmers.'"

"Thus, 'the message goes on to comment, 'under the 'rule' of the Lon Nol-Sirik Matak gang, the independence and sovereignty of the Khmers are confined to Phnom Penh and five kilometres from the city, and not beyond this limit!'"

"But that is not all. The Vietnamese patrons of Lon Nol, Sirik Matak and company hold the Khmer soldiers in utter contempt."

"According to AFP (in the same dispatch of May 13), General Do Cao Tri made the following comment on Lon Nol's mercenaries: 'The Cambodian Army isn't fighting. It seems more afraid of us than of the Viet Cong.'"

"Bringing in Chup before correspondents of the international press, the same Do Cao Tri declared that 'the joint communiqué signed by the foreign ministers of Cambodia and South Viet Nam give us (the Saigon regime) the possibility to come back to Cambodia at any time and at any place.' That is what the Lon Nol propaganda calls his 'victory in the Saigon negotiations.'"

"That propaganda takes pride in the fact that the Saigon regime accepts to give Lon Nol what it has refused Sihanouk: a declaration to

SAMDECH NORODOM SIHANOUK, HEAD OF STATE OF CAMBODIA, CONTINUES HIS VISIT IN THE DRVN

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On behalf of the FUNK, Government of Cambodia and the Khmer people, Samdech Norodom Sihanouk thanked the South Vietnamese heroes and valiant fighters for the considerate attention they were paying to his delegation. He hoped to be able in the near future to welcome the South Vietnamese friends to his beautiful Cambodia.

On May 28, escorted by Premier Pham Van Dong and Minister of Culture Hoang Minh Giam, Samdech Norodom Sihanouk, Princess Monique Sihanouk, Samdech Penn Nouth and Mme Penn Nouth planted trees at Reunification Park in Hanoi, in souvenir of their visit to Viet Nam.

Many pioneers and Uncle Ho's well-behaved children who were taking part in this planting of saplings, promised to Samdech Norodom Sihanouk and the Cambodian guests that they would take care of these trees,

symbols of the friendship between Viet Nam and Cambodia.

On the same day, Samdech Norodom Sihanouk and the other guests visited the "March 8" Textile Factory in Hanoi where they were warmly welcomed by the Minister of Light Industry Kha Vang Can and leading cadres, and workers of the factory. After visiting various workshops, Samdech Norodom Sihanouk attended a meeting held by the workers in honour of their Cambodian guests. At this gathering, the manager of the textile mill, Mme Le Thi Nha, voiced the gratitude of the Vietnamese working class to the Cambodian people for their support to the struggle of the 31 million Vietnamese against US aggression.

On the same day, a group of Hanoi pioneers was received by Samdech Norodom Sihanouk and his party. They presented them with bouquets and red scarves and performed folk dances



At Quan Su Pagoda

and songs. In a relaxed and congenial atmosphere, Samdech Norodom Sihanouk expressed his joy and emotion at the respect and affection the Vietnamese pioneers showed him. Deeply

moved by the fact that the children affectionately addressed him as "Uncle Sihanouk," he said that such a gesture had an inestimable symbolic value and was a clear manifestation of friendship between Viet Nam and Cambodia.

In return, Samdech Norodom Sihanouk presented the pioneers with a silver stork. In its tireless flight, this bird which crosses all frontiers, symbolizes solidarity and friendship among nations. A collection of songs composed by Samdech Norodom Sihanouk himself was also given to the children.

The Head of State of Cambodia and the other distinguished guests also visited the Revolutionary Museum. They showed great interest in the various stands which recounted the history of the Vietnamese nation fighting for 4,000 years against foreign invasion. They stayed a long time in the section reserved for the anti-US resistance war waged by our Southern fellow-countrymen, in which were exhibited: spears, cross-bows, traps, booby-traps and other rudimentary weapons made by the guerrillas themselves.

Accompanied by Premier Pham Van Dong and Vice-Premier and Minister of Defence Vo Nguyen Giap,

the Cambodian guests also paid a visit to Missile Battalion No 61, a hero-unit of the Viet Nam People's Army, in charge of the defence of the capital city.

The battalion commander reported to Samdech Norodom Sihanouk that his unit, set up five years ago, was one of the first of its kind to have, in its baptism of fire, downed a group of three US planes. Its battle-count in the four years of fighting was 36 American war planes grounded, including the one manned by Lieutenant Commander John Sidney McMan captured on Truc Bach Lake.

The commander of Missile Battalion No 61 expressed the joy of his unit at hearing of the resounding successes of the Khmer National Liberation Army against the US imperialists and their lackeys, the Lon Nol-Sirik Matak clique.

Samdech Norodom Sihanouk heartily congratulated the battalion on its exploits. He said in substance that, "as Indochinese, and brothers-in-arms fighting in the same front-line against US imperialism, we are proud of your accomplishments which contribute to safeguard the independence of the DRVN and also to guarantee a bright future for the whole of Indochina."



In Reunification Park

Liberation, supported by all patriotic citizens, men and women, who have ten to join en masse the National United Front of Kampuchea, has redoubled its efforts in its heroic fight against our mortal enemies—the US imperialist neo-colonialists, their Saigon and Bangkok lackeys and the latter's lackeys Lon Nol - Sirik Matak - Cheng Heng - Trinh Hoanh - In Tam and company.

"Our citizens, men and women, and our youth in the provinces do

not hesitate to give every possible aid to our liberation army, enabling it to win new and important successes in several parts of the country."

"Even within the army of the Lon Nol regime, an increasing number of officers, non-commissioned officers and especially men have become aware of their aberration which had led them to serve the bad cause of the traitors and that of the US imperialists and their Saigon and Bangkok lackeys. These military men, realizing their mistake, have joined the FUNK (National United Front

of Kampuchea) and the ranks of the liberation army."

Samdech N. Sihanouk forcefully affirms:

"Our Khmer people are not and will never be alone in their struggle. They are and will always be strongly assisted, in many ways, by their Vietnamese and Lao brothers, by their great Chinese and North Korean friends, who will support them effectively till their total victory."

"Also supporting them and supporting them firmly are the other

socialist peoples, and all progressive and anti-imperialist peoples in the world."

"Consequently, it is certain that we will not never lack means of all kinds to lead our sacred fight to its glorious conclusion."

"Moreover, let us recall here again that this struggle is taking place in the context of the struggle of the Indochinese peoples for the complete liberation of our three countries, Khmer, South Vietnamese and Lao."

A World Lawyers' Conference on Viet Nam, convened in July 1969 in Grenoble (France) and attended by 130 delegates from 47 countries, condemned US armed aggression in Viet Nam as well as US puppet war crimes — in the strict sense of the word — genocidal crimes and crimes against mankind. Its fourth commission studied a purely American problem, the legal grounds of the refusal to take part in a war of aggression, and made to the conference a recommendation which was unanimously adopted: it expressed "the firm opinion that a fundamental principle of international law assigns to individuals in all countries the duty to refuse participation in a war of aggression; those who help individuals in their objection to such a war should then be considered to be guiltless of all involvement."

From Grenoble to Toronto

World Lawyers Against U.S. War of Aggression and Neo-Fascism

DO XUAN SANG
DRVN Lawyers' Association

Since then, events have taken a new turn. Richard Nixon who has replaced Johnson in the White House, has been stepping up a new aggression against the spectacular withdrawal of some American contingents from South Viet Nam. He has committed GIs and Saigon puppet troops to a naked aggression against Cambodia and a surreptitious infiltration into Laos.

In the US, he has been pursuing a true policy of terror and repression against the ever growing number of opponents to the US war of aggression. He has been making use of the reactionary juridical arsenal (this against desertion and insubordination and iniquitous trials of the type of the conspiracy law suit in Chicago) as well as tort, genocide and light machine-guns. However, Amendment No 1 to the American Constitution recognizes the American citizens' right to assembly without arms, to demand correction of political mistakes by the administration by way of petition. A neo-fascism is in the making in the US.

Large sections of progressive American citizens and lawyers have been militating against Nixon's war of aggression and neo-fascism and have obtained the acquittal of the well-known pacifist Dr Benjamin Spock, and the release of the Chicago Seven who were

against Justice John Marshall's sentence. On May 20, 1970, 1,200 lawyers sent by the bars of New York and other cities in the Northeast of the US, staged a "march" in a chartered train on Washington to demonstrate in front of the Congress against the extension of the war to Cambodia. Significantly enough, among the demonstrators were Ramsey Clark, US ex-attorney general, and Cyrus Vance, ex-deputy-head of the US delegation to the Paris Conference on Viet Nam. It is also the powerful impact of the anti-war movement which brought about the passage by the Senate of Massachusetts State of a law legalizing its young citizens' right to refuse service in all wars not declared by the US Congress.

Meanwhile an international

people are more and more conscious of the numerous consequences likely to arise from Nixon's criminal adventure in Indochina if he is given a free hand. The other world peoples who have suffered at the hands of Hitlerite fascism know how it is generated and where it will go. A country which arrogates itself the role of an international gendarme and plays it against all and sundry, necessarily goes fascist. In fact, the US presidential regime resorts to fascist measures with the intensification of the war of aggression in Viet Nam and Indochina. There are no more democratic liberties to speak of when the peace demonstrators are shot at.

Nixon's neo-fascism was born and is growing differently from Hitler's old fascism. The correlation of forces in the world has ir-

reversibly tilted in favor of the socialist, democratic and peace forces and the national liberation movement. Neo-fascism must camouflage its activities at home just like neo-colonialism does abroad.

Both of them are the products not of a position of strength but of a position of weakness of waning imperialism.

Juridically speaking, they have been condemned not only by history but by positive international law documents.

Placing themselves on these materials published in post-war days (statute and judgments of the Nuremberg Tribunal, resolutions of the 1960 and 1965 UN General Assemblies), the lawyers can work effectively for, and make an effective contribution to, the peoples' struggle against the common enemy.

In the US, jurists took an active part in the 1970 spring offensive, and will certainly play a greater role in the summer of 1970 which bids fair to become very hot and in next autumn's American congressional elections.

To our colleagues and friends in the States and other countries, we say: "Cheer up!" Our common struggle for the fundamental national rights of peoples, for peace and democracy and the safeguard of the fundamental principles of international law will certainly be victorious.

THAILAND DRAGGED INTO U.S. CAMBODIA ADVENTURE

THE Lon Nol-Sirik Matak gang of traitors has sounded desperate SOSes. Unhappily their big "boss" Son Ngoc Thanh, head of the "Khmers Serei," and have recently sent Sirik Matak to Cambodia after the illegal deposition of Samdech Norodom Sihanouk. They have tried to obtain the right to withdraw from Cambodian territory as announced. The plight of the South Vietnamese puppets is not better either: the repeated attacks of the patriotic forces have already compelled them to bring home 10,000 men.

Someone else must come to the help of Lon Nol-Sirik Matak, Washington has found the man: Thanoon Kittikachorn, Thailand's Prime Minister. An announcement was quickly prepared in Bangkok which said that "Thai volunteers" would be sent to Cambodia with equipment supplied by Nixon. To placate public opinion, Thanoon Kittikachorn hurriedly added that the men he had thrown into this venture would be of Cambodian extraction residing in Thailand. This clarification does not reduce the gravity of his criminal decision.

It is an open secret that Thanoon Kittikachorn has always been a pliant US agent. Bangkok is the HQ of the SEATO military aggressive bloc. Thai mercenaries are fighting in South Viet Nam for the sake of Washington. From military bases set up in Thailand US warplanes, including B-52s, take off daily on devastating and murderous raids in Viet Nam and Laos. Revelation has shown that the Thai people will not stand idly by the co-ordinated action of the puppet forces in the region will thwart the enslavement scheme hatched by the US imperialists.

It remains to be seen whether this plan will work. It is not the first time that Thai troops were sent by Thanoon Kittikachorn to fight in an American war: they had been sent to South Viet Nam and Laos. However their presence there in no way prevents the patriotic forces from carrying out their struggle. The Thai people will not stand idly by the co-ordinated action of the puppet forces in the region will thwart the enslavement scheme hatched by the US imperialists.

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE SUPPORTS CAMBODIAN PEOPLE'S STRUGGLE

THE recent International Conference in support of the Lao People's Struggle against US imperialism in Cairo has passed a resolution voicing full support to the just struggle of the Cambodian people.

The resolution denounced the March 18 US-engineered coup d'etat against Samdech Head of State Norodom Sihanouk and the invasion of Cambodia by nearly 100,000 GIs and Saigonese soldiers.

It warmly welcomed the formation of the FUNK and the Royal Government of National Union of Cambodia and hailed the great achievements of the Cambodian people in their effort to defeat American imperialism and overthrow the Lon Nol-Sirik Matak Authority, and build up an independent, peaceful, neutral, democratic and prosperous Cambodia.

The conference addressed a pressing appeal to all the governments and peoples that stand for peace and justice, including the United Nations, to exert their influence to the Khmer people, to take firm, prompt and effective action to force the Nixon administration to put an immediate end to

American aggression against Cambodia, to withdraw completely and without further delay American and Saigonese troops, military personnel and war equipment, to let the Khmer people settle its own affairs without foreign interference;

To vigorously condemn the fascist and racist Lon Nol-Sirik Matak clique, USA agents, and to force it to cease its persecution and massacres of Khmer civilians as well as Vietnamese and Chinese residents;

To recognize the Royal Government of National Union of Cambodia as the sole legal and representative Government of Cambodia;

To give unreserved moral support and material assistance to the Khmer people in order to enable them to intensify further their resistance against the American aggressors and their lackeys until total victory.

The conference unanimously decided to hold an annual "Week of Solidarity with the Cambodian People Fighting Against the American Aggressors," and to prevent the disappearance of Vietnamese funds, domestic

NIXON'S PHONEY SUCCESSES DENOUNCED

AT the 60th session of the Paris Conference, Mr Nguyen Minh Vy again denounced, on behalf of the DRVN, the stubbornness and double-talk of the Nixon administration which, while talking peace, has never made a sincere attempt to peacefully settle the Viet Nam problem. At present, the US imperialists are scheming not only to prolong their aggressive war in South Viet Nam but to spread it throughout Indochina, aggravating the tension in this area.

Pointing at the heavy setbacks sustained by the US imperialists in Viet Nam, Cambodia and Laos, Mr Nguyen Minh Vy said: "Each US war escalation is

followed by heavier US reverses. Especially, of late in their naked aggression against Cambodia, the US rulers have met with a stiff opposition at home and abroad. Intent on hushing up setbacks and appeasing the American people, the Nixon administration has done its best to trumpet its faked successes in Cambodia and South Viet Nam.

The DRVN Delegation spokesman went on: "By seeking a military victory and a position of strength, the Nixon administration is getting bogged deeper down in the Indochina quagmire and will raise the toll to be paid by the American people in human lives and property in this unjust and immoral war already doomed to failure."

On May 15 these 3 students started a hunger-strike and the enemy had to set them free.

On May 16, the students staged a demonstration against the puppet administration which unleashed policemen on them: nine more arrests of demonstrators.

On May 17, Thieu threatened the puppet MPs who had shown sympathy with the students. New street demonstrations and the police besieged An Quang Pagoda and dispersed the demonstrators.

In an attempt to soothe the students and people's movement, on May 20 and 21 Thieu released four of the eleven "ring-leaders" detained since last March and cut down the duration of curfew from 10 to 8 hours.

Thieu's move was not taken in. They staged a demonstration in front of the "Ministry of Foreign Affairs" in protest against the forthcoming visit of Yem Sambaur, the Foreign Minister of the Phnom Penh government. This was also a formal reminder to the Saigon tyrants to meet the students' legitimate demands.

However on the next day, Thieu had two students' leaders, Nguyen Van Thang and Doan Kinh, apprehended on May 23 and Tran

Thieu - Ky - Khiem Triumvirate ...

(Continued from page 8)

On May 11, under popular pressure, the puppet administration was compelled to release 73 people arrested since May 9. However, it obstinately persisted in keeping under lock and key and prosecuting three students' leaders: Nguyen Thang, Nguyen Hoang Tach and Doan Kinh, Chairman of the Students' Struggle Committee. These leaders went on demanding the release of all their mates illegally arrested.

The next day, the students agreed to grant a 3 days' delay to the Thieu-Ky-Khieu clique which however remained obdurate.

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Thieu Premier, the puppet Premier, craftily promised to put a building at the disposal of the SGA. The answer of the students was given in the SGA Vice-Chairman Doan Van Ton's statement: "We continue to strike and call for release of all our mates still in jail."

Meanwhile, the American "proconsul" in Saigon, Ambassador Ellsworth Barker, in a letter to the Saigon government, urged it to crack down more harshly on the Saigon students, on May 10 declared in West Point that the student unrest was instigated by the communists.

According to Western sources, on May 27 some 120 students on motor-cycles rode past the US Embassy and pelleted it with tomatoes, rotten eggs and tins of paint.

In other places of the city demonstrators distributed anti-fascist leaflets and streamers, saying "Down with Barker!" "Viet Nam isn't the 51st American State."

The Saigon court martial announced on May 28 that four students' leaders would be brought to trial. Immediately 4,000 students and pupils of three secondary schools including Cao Thang technical school staged a march. Facing the savage assaults of the puppet police, the pupils of Cao Thang school from the roofs and out of the windows of the school hurled machine parts, bottles of petrol and other materials at the assailants. Those of the Petrus Ky secondary school also took part in the action.

The decision on a general strike was endorsed by the students' congress at the end of May.

The Saigon University and high school students' fight against the Thieu-Ky-Khieu clique has enlisted a staunch support from the people and youth throughout South Viet Nam.

Other demonstrations have broken out in the towns of Quang Tri, Hue, Da Nang, Qui Nhon, Da Lat, Central Viet Nam and Vinh Long. Can Tho, Long Xuyen, Chau Doc, Rach Gia, Bac Lieu and Soc Trang in the Mekong Delta.

In support of the students,

hundreds of "strategic hamlets" and other forms of concentration camps dismantled.

From these important successes won by the PLAF, despite the reinforcement by the enemy of his defense system and conventional use of aircraft and artillery, it appears that the South Vietnamese people and armed forces are completely in the initiative throughout the country and hunk more and more powerful punches. The failure of the "pacification" program and Nixon's frenzied "Vietnamization" adventure seems a foregone conclusion.

"economic co-operation" accord on April 22 and 23, 1955 stipulated that the help granted was clearly that the Vietnamese aimed at "affording a direct support" and "to be more precise, it was conditioned by the great financial contribution made by the South Viet Nam government to its armed forces... a part of this contribution" may come from the releases effected to the benefit of the South Viet Nam government from the counterpart fund...

Underlined by the author, the counterpart fund, the US took upon itself on the average 75 per cent of the annual expenditure of the Saigon National Defence budget for the upkeep of the military and para-military forces, a budget which eats up on the average 50 per cent of all the budgetary expenses.

There is no blinking the fact that US aid has made it possible for the Saigon regime to exist, and better still, to survive.

US aid is thus for South Viet Nam not only an "artificial" prop but also rather a "rope to hang itself."

However there is no illusion on the utilization of this money: the

U.S. Neo-Colonialism ...

(Continued from page 2)

or foreign, so far as those funds are derived from US financial aid."

The Americans go further and they put the screw on the Saigon government by forcing them to deposit in the special account in the National Bank of Viet Nam, the duty and fiscal income collected from goods imported under that aid. The result was that the "counterpart fund" supplied 66.3 per cent of the counterpart fund.

In the end, the screw tightens which consists in imposing on the Saigon government the obligation of depositing in the special account all the customs receipts of the goods imported under "economic co-operation" (Same Agreement, Section 4).

But Washington does not trust its strawmen and attacks the Viet Nam government by forcing it to consult the American experts (advisors-Ed.) at the request of the US with a view to the exchange of the US with a view to the Exchange Control Authority, an effective in preventing the disappearance of Vietnamese funds, domestic

terpart fund" in South Viet Nam economy!

In the 1964 budget, for instance, one of the 20,000 million (South Vietnamese) piastres of receipt against 37,110 million piastres of expenditure, 14,480 million derived directly from the government, 7,700 million from commercialized aid and 4,660 million from customs duty and fiscal income collected from goods imported under that aid. The result was that the "counterpart fund" supplied 66.3 per cent of the counterpart fund.

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to sum up, USOM administrators on behalf of the US government the finances of the South Vietnamese state."

What is the weight of "count-

PLAF HIT HARD AT ENEMY DEFENCE SYSTEM AND "PACIFICATION" PROGRAM

- 38,000 Enemy Troops (8,000 GIs) Put out of Action.
- 400 Planes and Helicopters Downed or Destroyed, 700 Military Vehicles, Hundreds of Ordnance Pieces, Thousands of Tons of Ammunition Wrecked, Millions of Litres of Fuel Burnt.
- Big Gaps in Enemy Coercive Apparatus, Hundreds of "Strategic Hamlets" Dismantled.

FROM the initial reports just released by *Giáo Phong* Press Agency on the May activities of the PLAF and South Viet Nam people, it appears that the enemy continued, just like in April last, to sustain heavy losses on all theatres of operations and in his most sensitive spots: manpower, technical and material war means, "pacification" program.

In the **Quang Tri** and **Thao Thien** areas (the northernmost provinces in South Viet Nam), the PLAF mounted violent attacks on the sector of **Highway No. 9** between **Dung Ha** and **Khe Sanh**. **Đoàn Bô**, 12, southwest of Hue, and in the "pacified" countryside and enemy rear bases. **Hue** included. The PLAF put out of action 7,000 adverse troops including 1,000 GIs, wiped out or decimated a regimental CP, a battalion CP, an infantry battalion, an artillery battalion and dozens of companies. They destroyed 130 military vehicles (mostly 70 tanks and armoured cars), 62 cannons and mortars, and downed or blasted out of commission over one hundred aircraft. The fiercest actions were staged on **Tan Lam** ("Rockpile"), **Hill 241** ("Camp Carroll"), **Con Tien**, **Đục Mieu** (on Highway No. 9), bases of US Air Mobile Division 1st at **My Thuy**, **Binh Dien** and **Dang Lam** ("Camp Evans"), of puppet Infantry Division 1 at **Ta Mo Hoang** (a redoubt in Hue (City)). The enemy units in the field also took serious casualties: puppet Regiment 1 at **Chiem Giang**, in the hilly area southwest of Quang Tri, had 1,200 men disabled and 50 aircraft downed or destroyed on the ground.

In **Central and Southern Trung Bô**, 15,000 enemy soldiers were knocked out of action, a battalion CP, 3 battalions, and over 50 companies, platoons and "pacification" teams written off

the muster-roll or decimated. The patriotic forces wiped out 374 military vehicles (170 tanks and armoured cars), 35 cannons and mortars and 300 tons of ammunition and grounded or destroyed 200 planes and helicopters.

Between May 1 and 17, in these regions, the PLAF hammered at ten cities and provincial capitals, over twenty district capitals and military sub-sector CPs and about one hundred other military installations such as airfields, ports, depots, vehicle compounds. In the **Đà Nẵng** area alone, the enemy suffered 4,500 casualties (about one thousand GIs) and economies from satellite countries. Important targets in the city itself and suburbs, such as the big airbase, naval base, HQ of puppet First Army Corps, came under fire. Meanwhile, other PLAF units stormed many sub-sector CPs in the area: at **Hiep Duc** (53 km south of **Đà Nẵng**), 2,800 enemy troops (100 GIs) put out of action, all the three battalions of puppet Regiment 5 wiped out or badly mauled, about one hundred choppers and planes downed, and some dozen artillery pieces and about fifty tanks or armoured cars destroyed.

Further north, guerrilla warfare gained fresh momentum in the provinces of **Binh Dinh**, **Phu Yen** and **Khánh Hòa** where a great toll was taken of the enemy regional forces on "pacification" raids.

On **Đoàn Bô** 19 linking the Western High Plateaux to the sea, over 200 enemy military vehicles were lost in a dozen ambushes. Logistic depots were also selective targets of the PLAF. At **US Cam Ranh** base, 450 tons of ammunition were destroyed and over 4 million litres of fuel burnt.

In these areas enemy military training centres were

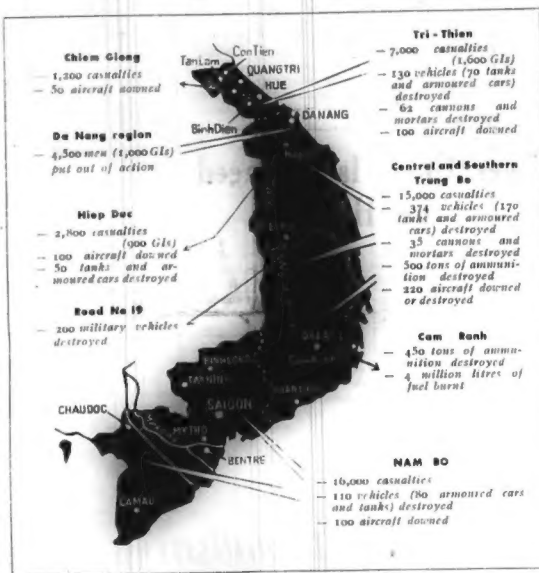
fiercely pounded, chiefly the psychowar centre, the police training school, the signal centre and the local radio station at **Đà Lạt**, the ESEPC military camp at **Phan Thiet**: about one thousand men were put out of action (50 per cent officers and technicians).

In **Nam Bô** (formerly Cochinchina) the enemy was under attack in the Eastern region (Saigon front) in the provinces of **Yay Minh** and **Binh Long**, in the Mekong Delta provinces of **My Tho**, **Ben Tre**, **Chau Doc**, **Cà Mau**, etc. In this southernmost part of Viet Nam, PLAF men knocked out 16,000 adverse troops, wiped out or decimated a battalion CP, 3 battalions and about 50 companies, platoons and "pacification"

teams, destroyed 210 military vehicles (80 tanks and armoured cars), dozens of cannons and mortars, downed or wrecked about one hundred planes and helicopters. The puppet Divisions 7 and 21 were soundly beaten. At the **Tan Miep** military training centres, 400 enemy troops were killed or wounded, 20 companies of cadets completely annihilated).

In total, the battle-count in May is as follows:
— 1,000 enemy targets hit by the PLAF (against 1,200 in April);
— 38,000 adverse troops including 6,000 GIs put out of action (as against 50,000 and 20,000 in April);
— 4 battalion and regimental CPs erased, 11 infantry or

(Continued page 7)



Thieu-Ky-Khiem Triumvirate Pours Oil on the Flame

THE University and high school students' struggle against the dictatorship of the Thieu-Ky-Khiem clique in South Viet Nam occupied cities has been going on three months and was met in May by the puppet's increased obstinacy and perfidy.

On May 5 the police attacked the students who had occupied the old Cambodian Embassy in protest against the Lon Nol-Sirik Matak gang's ransacking of Vietnamese residents in Cam-

bodia, and arrested sixty of them. At the same time the puppet authorities banned all demonstrations and public meetings by virtue of the 1968 fascist law, closed down all schools in Saigon and extended the curfew.

Nevertheless on May 6 and 7 the students continued to take to the streets. On the evening of May 7, thugs molested Nguyen Van Thang, acting Chairman and Secretary-General of the Students' General Association (SGA),

Doan Van Tani, spokesman of the Students' Struggle Committee, and Nguyen Hoang Truc, SGA Deputy-Secretary General, according to Saigon press.

On May 9, the cops manhandled the students taking part in the sit-in before the Education Ministry and apprehended 70. The protesters far from being intimidated stepped up their action.

(Continued page 7)